

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AFR 43/04/90  
Distr: UA/SC

4 October 1990

Further information on UA 227/90 (AFR 43/02/90, 1 June) and follow-up  
AFR 43/03/90 ( 2 July) - Torture/Extrajudicial Killings 2 October 1990

NIGER:

Attoua ag Egour  
Karimoun ag Matachi

and other members of the Touareg ethnic  
group including:

Abdoulhatif Mohamed  
Mohamed Ahmoudou  
Taher Abdoulmounine

=====  
Around 400 people, mainly members of the Touareg ethnic group and including the above-named, were arrested in April 1990. Karimoun ag Matachi and Attoua ag Egour were reported as being released without charge or trial (see UA 227/90 follow-up as above). Amnesty International was concerned that those still in custody were being detained on account of their ethnic origin and non-violent political activities, and were in danger of torture or extrajudicial execution.

In August the government of Niger announced the release of seven people of the Touareg ethnic group, including the rest of those named above. No further action is required for them. Thank you to all those who sent appeals on their behalf.

However at the same time the government also announced that 45 other people, whose names are not known, remain in custody awaiting trial. Participants are therefore asked to send further appeals on behalf of these other, less prominent, people of the Touareg group.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send airmail letters:**

- asking for clarification of the legal status of these detainees;
- seeking assurances that they are not being subjected to ill-treatment while in custody;
- asking that, if they have been arrested solely on account of their ethnic origin, they should be immediately and unconditionally released.

**APPEALS TO:**

Son Excellence  
Monsieur le Général de Brigade Ali Saïbou  
Président de la République du Niger  
La Présidence  
Niamey, Niger

Monsieur Ali Bandiaré  
Ministre de la Justice et Garde des sceaux  
Ministère de la Justice  
Niamey, Niger

Monsieur le Lieutenant Colonel Mamadou Tanja  
Ministre de l'Intérieur  
Ministère de l'Intérieur  
622 BP  
Niamey, Niger

Monsieur Mahamane Sani Bako  
Ministre des Affaires Etrangères  
Ministère des Affaires Etrangères  
Niamey Niger

**COPIES TO:** Diplomatic representatives of Niger in your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat or your section office if sending appeals after 12 November 1990.